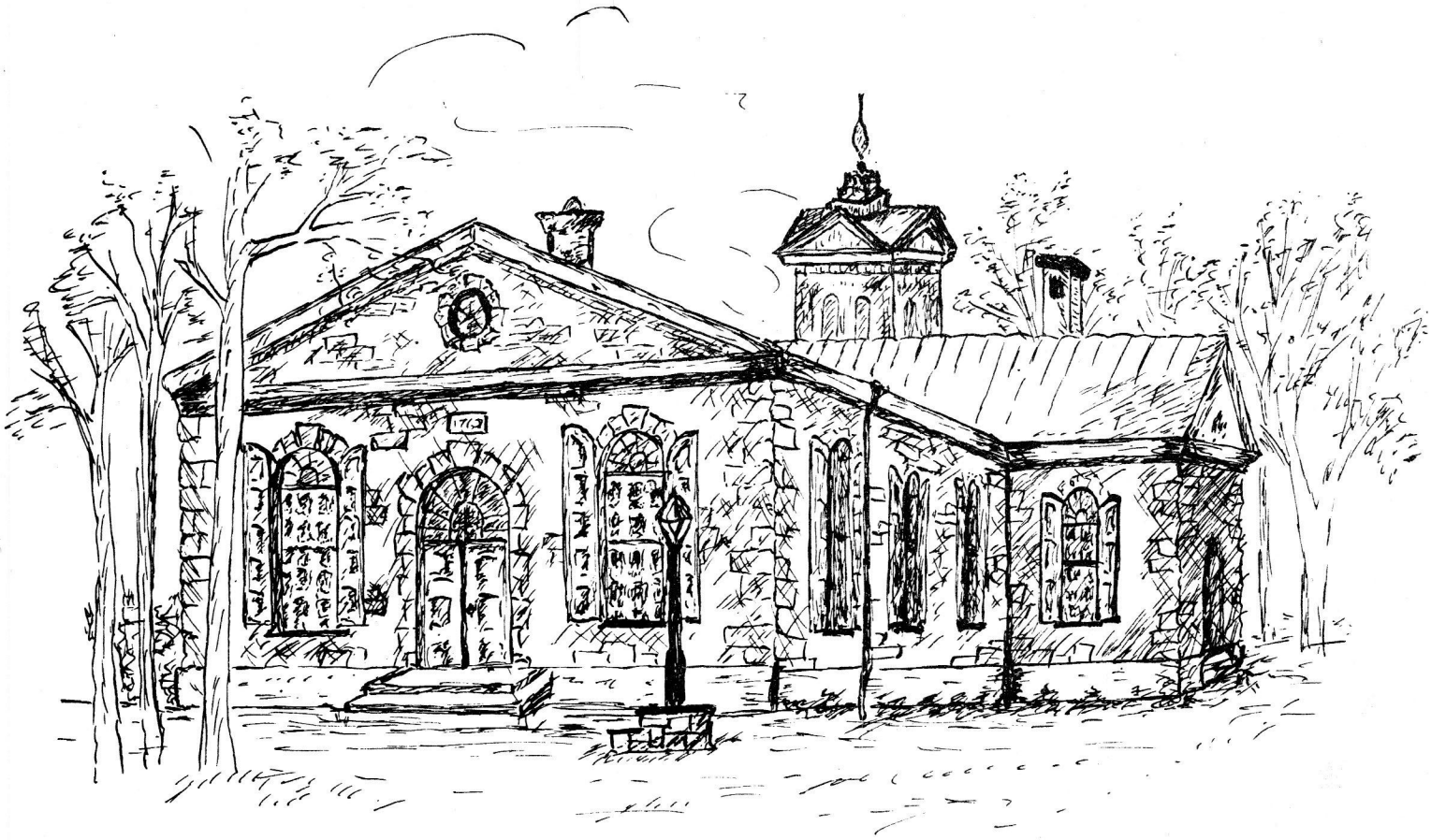
# ST. JAMES CHURCH OF KINGSESSING

## 200th Anniversary

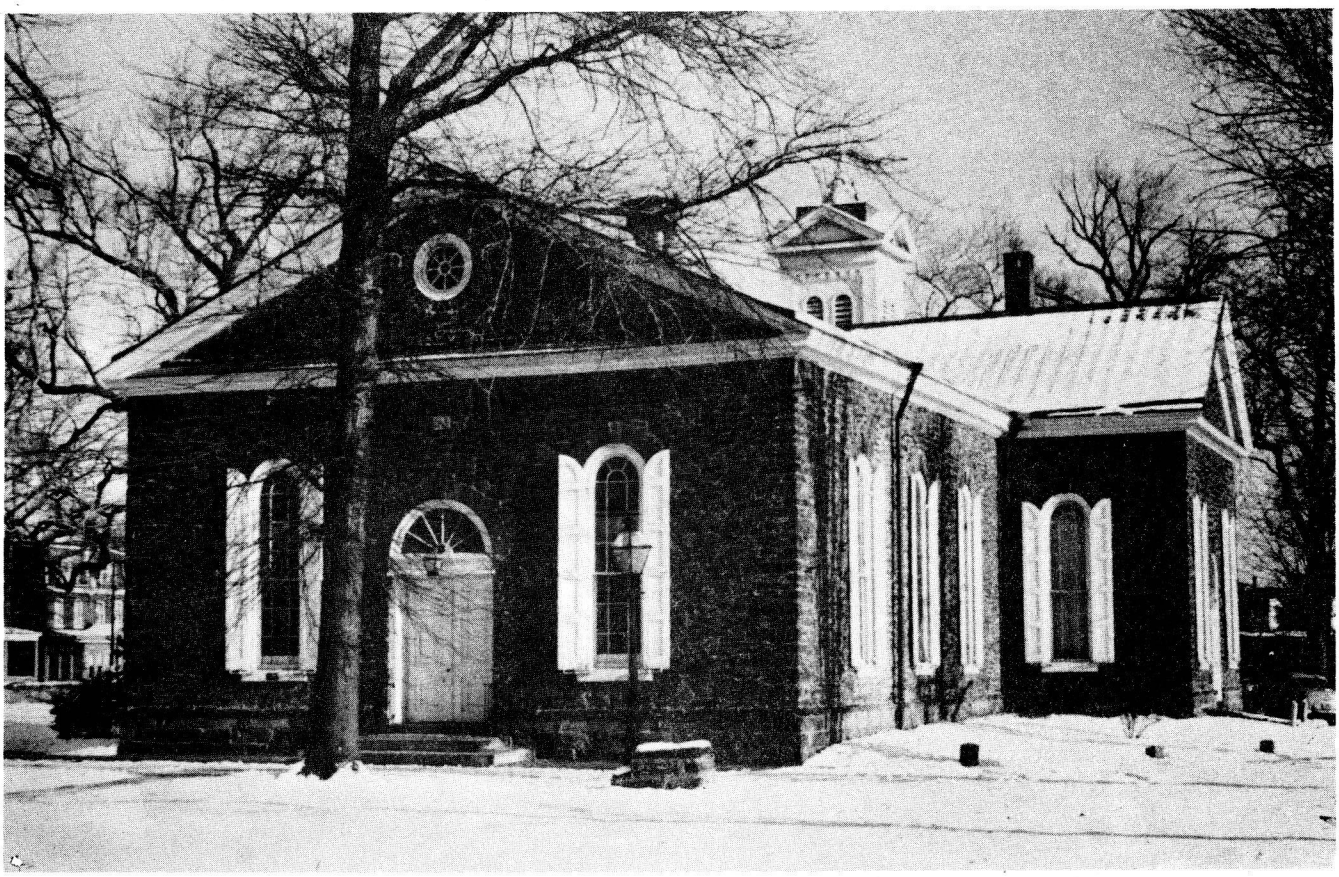
1762 ********** 1962



Reports for the Annual Congregational Meeting

Easter Monday, April 23 8 P.M.

TO THOSE "FAITHFUL AND COURAGEOUS SOULS"
WHO HAVE GIVEN US THIS RICH HERITAGE OF
SAINT JAMES AND PARTICULARLY THOSE OF
OUR NUMBER WHO HAVE PASSED TO THE LARGER
LIFE SINCE THE BEGINNING OF OUR
ANNIVERSARY YEAR, WE DEDICATE THESE PAGES.



1762 1962

# ST. JAMES CHURCH
## OF KINGSESSING
PHILADELPHIA

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### A PRAYER FOR THE
### TWO HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY

Blessed Lord God, we thank Thee for this Church of St. James; for those faithful and courageous souls who established it, and for the dedicated and self-sacrificing disciples who, during these many generations, have maintained and beautified it. May we, heirs of a noble history, determine by Thy Grace to cherish what has been given to us, to make stronger and more fruitful our parish activities, and to set for our successors in the Faith a high and noble standard. Guide to this parish Church all who may here find peace, joy and comfort. Let the Spirit of Thy Holiness possess the hearts and minds of all who worship here; and in Thine own Time, after we have served Thee acceptably in this our earthly pilgrimage, by Thy Mercies, bring us we pray Thee, O Lord, to the nearer vision of Thee in Thine Eternal Kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

# THE RECTOR'S REPORT

The following data are doubtless of interest to the parishioners of St. James. For the calendar year 1961:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Baptisms | - 65 | Members Removed by Transfer | - 11 |
| Confirmed | - 30 | Active Communicants | - 725 |
| Received | - 3 | Lay Readers | - 6 |
| Marriages | - 9 | Ordination as Deacon and Priest | - 1 |
| Burials | - 54 | Ordination as Deacon | - 1 |
| Members Added by Transfer | - 31 | Candidate for Holy Orders | - 1 |

The large number of persons transferred to us is due to the closing of St. Titus Mission as part of the Eastwick development project.

In addition to various Community and Diocesan activities I have continued to serve as a member of the Board of Managers of the Chapin Home for Aged Blind, and as a Trustee of the Philadelphia Divinity School.

It is evident to all of us who live in this area that our neighborhood is changing. St. James' members continue to move to the suburbs. The newcomers are largely people from South Philadelphia not many of whom are likely to turn to the Episcopal Church. We are hopeful that the re-development in Eastwick will bring some people to St. James and stem the tide of diminishing membership.

It may interest you to know that during my twenty years as Rector from October 1, 1941 to the end of the Calendar Year 1961 these data appear in the Parish Register:

Baptisms - 1322
Confirmed - 843
Marriages - 305
Burials - 1248

In a report for the year 1912 the then Rector, the Rev'd. Simeon Lord Gilberson, M.A., recorded the statistics from the year 1835 (the year that the Register was first kept at St. James. All baptisms, et cetera, previously were recorded in the Register of the United Swedish Lutheran Churches kept at Gloria Dei Church).

The following are the figures 1835 through ~~1931~~ 1961:

Baptisms - 5619
Confirmations - 2786
Marriages - 1625
Burials - 4554

In closing this brief report I would refer first, to the very successful Mission conducted during the first week of Lent 1961 by the Rev'd. William R. D. Turkington, O.H.C. This was an inspiring spiritual foundation in preparation for the celebration of our 200th Anniversary. And then, further, I would pay tribute to the conspicuous work of Mr. Fred Davidson, Chairman of the 200th Anniversary Committee. All of the special and impressive events held thus far, and yet to be held, are evidence of his untiring devotion to this Parish Church.

James C. Gilbert,
Rector

# THE REPORT OF THE RECTOR'S WARDEN

In this report I would like to pay tribute to some of the people of our Parish:

To Miss Mareen Bixler, the fine music and Choir at St. James. Under Miss Bixler's direction our Choir adds dignity to our Services. Her talent as a musician is superb.

To the Acolytes' Guild, under the direction of Mr. James Colsher, does a fine service supplying Servers, Crucifers, and Acolytes at all our Worship Services.

To our Sextons, Mr. Henry Maxwell and Mr. Herbert Henry who keep our Church, Cemetery, Churchyard and Parish House in such condition that they are a credit to us and to the Community.

To our Vestrymen who do an untiring and faithful task in the many problems and duties of this Parish. In speaking of the Vestry, I would like to give special thanks to Mr. P. John Moore who, at the end of our 200th Year will be retiring as the Accounting Warden. Mr. Moore has been faithful and hard working in his duties. It is a pleasure to be a part of the Vestry of St. James Church.

During the six weeks of the Lenten Season, we have had a spiritual and interesting experience. A reverent Service of Evening Prayer and Sermons given by:

The Rev'd. G. William Truitt
The Rev'd. Ronald Conklin
The Rev'd. Anthony J. Mattes
The Rev'd. Norman Faramelli
Mr. Rudolph Moore
Mr. Kurt Schellkopf

These men were either members or Seminarian Assistants at St. James. The average attendance at these Services was 145 persons.

There are many other people and organizations I could mention who are doing outstanding work, but I would need to write a book to include them all.

It has been a great honor to serve as Rector's Warden in the 200th Anniversary Year of St. James Church of Kingsessing.

William J. Conner,
Rector's Warden.

The following figures summarize the ACCOUNTING WARDEN'S REPORT FOR 1961.

THE VESTRY ACCOUNT:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Contributions (all sources) | - | $ 23,649.90 |
| Disbursements | - | 22,398.80 |
| Balance | - | $ 1,251.10 |

SPARKS BUILDING ACCOUNT:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Income (endowment and contributions) | - | $ 690.73 |
| Disbursements | - | 2,402.24 |
| Deficit | - | $ 1,711.51 |

SUNDAY SCHOOL:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Receipts | - | $ 1,176.11 |
| Disbursements | - | 808.13 |
| Balance | - | $ 367.98 |

TOTALS:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sparks Building Deficit | - | $ 1,711.51 |
| Vestry Balance | - | 1,251.10 |
| Sunday School Balance | - | 367.98 |
| Total Deficit | | $ 92.43 |

BENEVOLENCE:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Receipts | - | $ 7,490.33 |
| Disbursements | - | 7,917.41 |
| Deficit (Made up from Balance Jan. 1, 1961) | - | $ 427.08 |

CEMETERY:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Income | - | $ 4,708.47 |
| Cost of Operation | - | 4,327.60 |
| Balance | - | $ 380.87 |

PARISH ENDOWMENT:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Income | - | $ 3,449.42 |
| Vestry Deficit | - | 92.43 |
| Balance | - | $ 3,356.99 |

Balances in the various accounts are placed in a Sinking Fund against major repairs and improvements, or for the purchase of new equipment.
This statement does not include any figures for the Sparks Improvement Fund. Organization funds, certain Sunday School monies, the Communion Alms contributions, et cetera are all in separate accounts.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL AND FAMILY SERVICE REPORT

We are very happy to report that our Sunday School enrollment is 431 (6 Officers; 36 Teachers, 389 Scholars). This does not include 133 on our Font Roll. This is remarkable, in view of the neighborhood changes on account of families moving into the Suburban areas.

| | On Roll | Average attendance per Sunday | Attendance Awards |
|---|---|---|---|
| In 1901 | 502 | 305 | 52 |
| 1902 | 506 | 294 | 50 |
| 1903 | 505 | 310 | 75 |
| 1908 | 501 | 339 | 85 |
| 1910 | 527 | 359 | 117 |
| 1915 | 505 | 335 | 102 |
| 1920 | 547 | 264 | 39 |
| 1925 | 581 | 338 | 75 |
| 1930 | 563 | 350 | 116 |
| 1935 | 469 | 317 | 92 |
| 1940 | 434 | 279 | 84 |
| 1945 | 430 | 259 | 32 |
| 1950 | 503 | 266 | 28 |
| 1955 | 476 | 261 | 36 |
| 1958 | 499 | 286 | 54 |
| 1959 | 506 | 293 | 52 |
| 1960 | 444 | 261 | 62 |
| 1961 | 462 | 287 | 76 |

Average attendance per Sunday for the month of March, 1962 was 296. Our Teachers and Officers are to be complimented for such a fine job they are doing and, of course, we owe it all to you who are Parents for seeing to it that your children attend Sunday School.

The Family Service and Sunday School have their opening Service together at 9:30 A.M. and the Family average attendance per Sunday has been:

1957 - 42 1959 - 43
1958 - 44 1960 - 44 1961 - 45

This has proven to be a wonderful service and we extend our many thanks to Mr. Kurt Schellkopf, Seminarian-Assistant, who conducts the Service.

The Boys and Girls of the Sunday School last year, for Missions through their Mite Boxes, presented $700.00 to the Diocese of Pennsylvania. In addition to this, the Boys and Girls contribute to local organizations: - House of Rest, Church Army, College Work, Divinity School, Chinese Christian Centre, Church Farm School, Colleges. We wish to thank everyone for their fine contributions. We appreciate the Parents' interest in our School and we cordially invite you Parents to attend Sunday School and to visit the class or classes in which your Children are enrolled. The Teachers will welcome such an opportunity to become better acquainted with the parents - Do come - will You?

Respectfully submitted,
Robert M. Smith,
Superintendent.

## THE CHANCEL GUILD

The meetings of the Chancel Guild are held on the first Tuesday of each month from October through June. We have a membership of 35 women. The purpose of the Guild is to provide and care for linens for the Sanctuary and provide vestments for the Choirs.

We have a Flower Committee whose duty is to see that there are Altar Flowers for all Services in the Church. The Choir Mothers take care of the cleaning and repairing of the vestments worn by the Choirs. The Altar Guild prepares the vessels used in the Service of Holy Communion.

Church Kalendars are sold by the Guild each year and we also have a baked goods and fancy table at other activities of the Church.

On this past New Year's Eve we started our 200th Year with an evening of fellowship followed by a Service of devotion in the Church.

Respectfully submitted,
Helen Wilson, Director.

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## ST. JAMES GUILD

Meetings of St. James Guild are held on the first Thursday of each month. We meet in the Church at 1:15 P.M. for Devotions, then continue with a business meeting in the Sparks Building. Each October we sponsor a movie, the first was "A Man Called Peter," followed by "The Robe" and "Inn of the Sixth Happiness."

We distribute and collect Penny Stockings each December, and apply the proceeds toward a new Kitchen floor in the Sparks Building.

At Christmas, our members decorate the Christmas Tree in the Church. This year we sponsored the first Annual Corporate Communion for Women and Girls. We also served, following the Lenten Service on March 28th. Our group serves the refreshments at the Annual Congregational Meeting.

Members of the group sew fancy items during the year as a means of fund-raising.

The group is sponsoring the sale of Pennants for the 200th Anniversary and is going to sponsor the sale of Christmas Cards. These cards will have a colored picture of the interior of St. James Church. They will be available late this Spring.

We extend a warm welcome to any interested women to join us.

Respectfully submitted,
Lillian Williamson, President.

## THE WOMAN'S AUXILIARY, AFTERNOON BRANCH

The Woman's Auxiliary, Afternoon Branch, with 28 members has many varied activities.

During the year we participated in the monthly luncheons and served a Turkey Supper in November. These projects enabled us to pay our Missionary committments to the Diocesan Churchwomen, make other Missionary contributions, to give $600.00 to St. James, $100.00 toward the new shades and help pay for additional tables.

Twice a year used clothing is collected and packed for Church World Service. This past year the people of St. James donated 691 pounds of clothing to this cause. Household articles and clothing are taken to Co Op Shop, a Diocesan project whose proceeds go to the Bishop's Fund.

Our delegates attend Diocesan meetings at Church House and during Lent we have a study program. Ditty bags are made for the Seamen's Church Institute and gifts are sent to Philadelphia General Hospital.

During 1961 it was our pleasure to arrange for the ~~Commorative~~ commemorative Plates and Tiles marking St. James 200th Anniversary. These were placed on sale in November and are available now, although this is a limited edition for the Anniversary.

We extend a warm welcome and invitation to all interested women to join in our activities.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Moore, President.

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## THE WOMAN'S AUXILIARY, EVENING BRANCH

The Evening Branch of the Woman's Auxiliary has an active membership of 10 women. Our meetings are held on the fourth Tuesday of the month.

After a Business Meeting we have a Study and Discussion period on one of the topics suggested by the Program Committee of the Diocesan Churchwomen.

We sponsor the Annual Strawberry Festival in June, and a Book Review in January. From these fund raising projects and dues, Committments were paid to the Diocesan Churchwomen and money was given to St. James for improvements to the Sparks Building. We served at the social hour after one of the Wednesday Evening Lenten Services.

This year we are sponsoring a Bus Trip to Washington, D.C., on April 28th with an interesting itinerary planned.

We stand ready to cooperate with other organizations in their activities at any time. We invite all interested women to come and join us.

Respectfully submitted,
Anna Beel, President.

## THE CHURCH GUILD

The Church Guild is a group of 55 women whose purpose is to work for the Church.

We participate in many money raising projects, namely, a Luncheon on the first Wednesday of each month, and a Roast Beef Supper on Shrove Tuesday. During the year we had Hat Sales and Card Parties and sold various items.

We made the following contributions: $ 100.00 toward window shades for the Sparks Building and $ 700.00 to the Vestry to be used at their discretion. Church Guild also gave $ 50.00 to the Divinity School and $ 75.00 to the various Committees of the Episcopal Churchwomen.

Respectfully submitted,
Helen Wilson, President.

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## THE UNITED THANK OFFERING

The United Thank Offering is the culmination of one woman's dream, a light of help shining in an unthinking world. A little Blue Box with jingling coins given in gratitude for God's help in women's daily lives to help other women at home and in far off lands to feed and clothe the needy of the world. Can we deny their cry for aid?

For some years it has been my priviledge to serve this Parish as its United Thank Offering Custodian and at each ingathering I have prayed that we might interest all women in this parish in the use of the "little Blue Box." So far an average of 65 women have participated in this endeavor "to give gladly as God has given to them." Can we not do better than this?

I say to you, "Rise up, O women of God!
Have done with lesser things,
Give heart, and soul, and mind, and strength
To serve the King of kings."

My gratitude to my Rector for choosing me to serve in this post all these years.

Respectfully submitted,
Caroline Baitzel, Custodian.

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## KITCHENAIDERS

There is a group of women in St. James who are unheralded and unsung who give themselves unstintingly and wholeheartedly. They are always ready to help whenever called upon. Their reputation has spread beyond the walls of the Parish and they have served Diocesan groups as well. They are known as the "KITCHENAIDERS." May we express our thanks to them for the many courtesies they have extended to all of us at St. James.

## THE ORDER OF THE DAUGHTERS OF THE KING, ST. JAMES CHAPTER

The St. James Chapter of the Daughters of the King has a membership of 21. These women have all taken the two vows of the Order - PRAYER and SERVICE. "To pray daily for the spread of Christ's Kingdom, especially among women; for God's blessing upon the members of the Order, and for the spiritual growth of the parish to which the chapter owes allegiance. To take regularly some part in the worship, study and work of the Church; to make a constant effort to bring other women within its influence and to render at all times such aid to the Rector as he may deem necessary for the spiritual upbuilding of the parish."
As the Order of the Daughter of the King is a spiritual Order, the Chapters, as such, must NOT raise money.

In the past year we had two members attend General Convention, one as Chapter delegate and one as a member of National Council of the Order. Many of our women have attended meetings of the Episcopal Churchwomen throughout the Diocese. We have assisted in planning devotions for various meetings as well as special prayers for the sick and shutins. One member wrote an article for the Junior Division on the practice of Prayer, to be printed at a later date in the Royal Cross (Magazine of the National Order).

In the capacity of Service we have at all meetings been assigned to various duties, such as visiting the sick and shutins, those about to be confirmed ot those who have not been attending Church or Sunday School regularly. We pasted the 200th Anniversary Prayer in the pew and choir Prayer Books. We serve at the Confirmation Tea and along with the Women of the Parish at any time refreshments are needed. We take this opportunity to thank the various Women's groups of St. James for their assistance in serving Wednesday evenings during Lent after each Service.

St. James Chapter was hostess on the occasion of the Presentation of the Self Denial Offering when all Parish Chapters in the Diocese were invited to a Tea preceding a Service in the Church. St. James Chapter gave a silver tea set to Mr. Gilbert at this time for the use of all parish organizations, marking St. James' 200th Anniversary. We are delighted that the Tea Set has been used at the Social hours during Lent and know that it will be used on many other occasions.

Since our monies are all given as free will offerings, we manage on a somewhat limited budget. Last year we presented to St. James a Juliana Evergreen holly-barberry bush for the Churchyard, contributed to the Church Farm School, sent $15.00 to Tamae Koyota who is attending Windham House on a Daughters of the King Master's Fund Scholarship (to which our members make a personal contribution each year.) We sent books to the Daughters of the King Missionary in Brazil and contributed personally to the Self Denial Fund which goes to pay her salary. The National Order pays the entire salary of Miss Elizabeth Daniel from this Fund contributed by the Chapters. Flowers and gift gifts were sent to sick and shutin members of our Chapter.

The Daughters of the King are always willing to assist where they are needed and to tell others about the Order and its work on a Chapter, Diocesan or National level. We welcome women to visit our meetings and become members of our Order.

Respectfully submitted,
Edna Davis, President

## ACOLYTES' GUILD

The Acolytes' Guild consists of a group of 25 boys ever ready to participate in the Church and Sunday School Services, assist in any project when called upon and active in other Church organizations. There is an Adult Advisory Board headed by the Rev'd. James C. Gilbert.

The boys are first trained to perform Acolyte duties at the 9:30 A.M. Sunday Service. As they grow older they are trained for Crucifer duties at other Church Services. The next step is assisting the Rector in the Chancel during the Communion Services. Two of our older boys are now serving as ushers. In the past two years this has helped nine of the boys attain the "God and Country" Religious award in the Boy Scouts of America

The regular meeting night is the fourth Wednesday of the month. The boys are all students, therefore no dues are collected and the Guild has no source of income. Recently, however, we sold Moth Crystals to help to finance an anticipated trip to the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York City.

At present the boys are receiving the following training:

As Acolytes - All 25

As Crucifers - 19

As Servers - 8

We are still in our second year as an organized group. Our future aims are for a more regular, systematic training set-up, a Rededication and Corporate Communion Service once a year and an annual social outing.

Respectfully submitted,
James Colsher.

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## MEN'S CLUB

The Men's Club is an active group of men within the Church offering fellowship and an interesting program for all age groups. The Club has 40 members, and meets on the second Tuesday of each month in the basement of the Sparks Building.

Our main source of income is from our annual Christmas Tree Sale. Donations were made to the Church, Church Farm School and to the Philadelphia Divinity School.

The Club sponsored both the Advent Corporate Communion and Breakfast and the Washington's Birthday Corporate Communion and Breakfast. Well over one hundred men and boys attended each activity.

The Club has endorsed 3 Teams in the Protestant Bowling League. Ed. Ross, Captain, presented the Club with another beautiful trophy. We are looking forward to our "Night with the Phillies." We wish to extend an invitation to any men of St. James who are not yet members, to come join our Club.

Respectfully submitted,
C. Leonard Williams, President.

## THE LADIES BIBLE CLASS

The Ladies Bible Class meets each week in the Sparks Building at the regular Sunday School hour. We have 16 active members and 3 honorary members. We have no fund raising activities, but by free will donations throughout the year we have contributed $ 22.00 to the Salvation Army Snack Bar at the Valley Forge Hospital. We also contributed $ 3.50 to the Church School By Mail, $ 15.00 to the Philadelphia General Hospital at Christmas to be used for anything they wished, and $ 5.00 to the Episcopal Hospital for Thanksgiving. We also have a Sunshine Fund which we use to send cards and gifts to the sick, plus various other small contributions.

Respectfully submitted,
Mae Palmer, Leader.

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## LAY READERS

The present group of Lay Readers at St. James includes the following:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Robert M. Smith | Harry C. Rippel | Shaw Stevenson |
| William Conner | Fred Davidson | Andrew T. Patterson |

Messrs. Smith and Conner are regularly active in conducting the service in the Sunday School which continues to progress under their leadership.

The services of the remainder of the group has been reduced to a minimum in deference to the use of the Seminarian-Assistant to the Rector, who assists at the 11.00 o'clock Service in addition to conducting the Family Service at 9:45 A.M. This arrangement provides practical training for the Seminarian and has been working out satisfactorily.

The Lay Readers continue as such and are available for any special service assigned to them by the Rector.

Respectfully submitted,
Andrew T. Patterson, Senior Lay Reader

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## GIRLS FRIENDLY SOCIETY JUNIORS

The Girls Friendly Society Juniors meet on Saturday mornings with an average attendance of 10 girls ( 9 - 13 years of age). All Diocesan obligations have been met. They have made tray favors for All Saints Hospital, Scrap Books for the Philadelphia General Hospital, and are making articles for the Mission Box.

The Annual Service this year will be held at the Free Church of St. John on April 28th which they hope to attend. The girls will take part in a "Talent and Tea" at St. Thomas Church, 52nd and Parrish, which affair is for the benefit of the Holiday House at Cape May.

The girls stripped the Palm for Palm Sunday again, a project which they have had for years.

Mrs. Craig has been "Advisor in Absentia" this year due to illness, but hopes to return to active participation. St. James owes a debt of gratitude to Mrs. Craig for her faithful devotion to the work of this Branch these many years. We wish her a complete recovery.

## YOUNG PEOPLE'S FELLOWSHIP

The Young People's Fellowship consists of 50 members and has an average attendance record of 30 people. Y. P. F. is based on a four point program.

The first is WORSHIP. We participated in Corporate Communion Services and we participated in Services at other Churches also.

Second is STUDY. Under Study we have had various speakers. Among them were: Mr. Schellkopf, David Wong, Dr. Jones, Fred Davidson, and Mr. P. J. Moore. We've been studying 'Teen-age Problems, The Vestry and its work, the Books of the Bible, Roman Catholicism, the Protestant Reformation, How the Episcopal Church was established, and various forms of the Episcopal Church. We have visited other Churches such as St. Clement's Episcopal Church, St. Barnabas Episcopal Church, and the Synagogue of Beth-am Israel.

SERVICE is the third program point. Y. P. F. has raked leaves in the Churchyard, helped at the Roast Beef Supper, and occasionally members have acted as Baby-sitters during the 11 o'clock Service. We gave the Spaghetti Dinner as a Service Project. This was very successful.

The fourth point is FELLOWSHIP. We entertain members of other Churches and hold Open House twice a year. We enjoy going swimming, bowling, horseback rides, Christmas Caroling, and we have parties and hold Square Dances.

TREASURY. We gave $30.00 to the Divinity School and $170.00 to the Sparks Building Renovation Fund.

Our plans for the future are to continue with betterment in the service of the Church.

We hope to divide the group this year in order to have a Young Adult Group from 18 years and over.

Everyone is welcome to come!

Respectfully submitted,
Darlene Williamson, President.

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## THURSDAY AFTERNOONS, 1:00 P.M.

A group of dedicated women meet regularly in the Sparks Building to make dressings for Cancer Patients. Although few in number they have made hundreds of various types of dressings. They are neighborhood women who have caught the vision of SERVICE. Their only requests are for clean, white linens to be used in the dressings and women who are willing to share in this tremendously important project.

## TROOP 638 BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

Troop 638 will receive its third yearly Charter in May. The troop re-registered 22 boys and 14 adult leaders. Twenty-three boys attended Camp last summer.

One of our adult leaders, Mr. Neil MacGregor, Troop Treasurer, received the Distinguished Service Award for outstanding work in Woodland District. This is the second year one of our adult leaders has been so honored, Mr. Warren Dunning, of the Troop Committee, received the award in 1960.

Last May the Troop held a Fathers and Sons' Banquet when Mr. Edgar Northwood, Scoutmaster, presented a 50 Star American Flag to St. James Church on behalf of the Troop.

The Troop also gave $50.00 toward heating the Sparks Building. The present Treasury amounts to $175.00 accumulated in dues, selling of 50 Star flags and Easter Eggs.

We need new members and cordially extend an invitation to any interested boy over eleven years of age to join and help St. James have an outstanding Boy Scout Troop.

The leaders have plans to make this one of the best troops in the Woodland District.

Respectfully submitted,
James Colsher,
Institutional Representative

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## GIRL SCOUT TROOP 283

Girl Sout Troop 283 meets on Tuesday Evenings at 7:30 in the Sparks Building. The Senior Scout Membership includes girls from the age of 14 to 18 years. Our troop has ten members.

During the year we have made items for distribution to patients in the Philadelphia General and University of Pennsylvania Hospitals. The girls have adopted a patient from out of state who is confined in the University Hospital. They visit her and send her cards.

The Troop has been assisting with the outdoor program of a local Brownie Pack. Several of the members have been working as Volunteer Hospital Aides. The funds for our service projects comes from the Sale of Scout Cookies.

Two of our members were selected to attend the Senior Round-Up in Vermont during the Summer of 1962.

We invite all interested teen-age girls to attend our meetings.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Revels, Troop Leader

## REPORT OF THE PARISH WORKER

Of necessity, in a large active Parish, there are many details which keep the wheels running smoothly. Some of these come under the category of Clerical Work. The Weekly Programs are prepared from September through June. The Parish Letter material is typed for the printer then processed for mailing. This is done 3 times a year, our last mailing for Lent 1962 consisted of 869 pieces. Special letters and notices are prepared and mailed when needed. Tickets are made for certain Parish Activities. Cemetery Records are entered as they are required and Care Bills are sent annually.

Our Font Roll continues to flourish, with 135 members, and 16 recent Baptisms to be added. 85 Families received material during the past year. 24 have entered Sunday School. 117 Families received Christmas Cards. Mite Boxes together with the Sunday School Newsletter and a sheet explaining the Offering were mailed to 53 Families in 1962. (Font Roll members contributed $29.02 to the Mite Box Offering in 1961). Since this program was begun in 1948, of those who have entered the Sunday School, 162 are still active and 36 have been confirmed in recent years. There are Six Visitors and the Director at present.

Study Material and Supplies are ordered for Classes from Nursery through High School. Conferences are held with Teachers. The Sunday School Newsletter, a mimeographed sheet, containing notices and seasonal suggestions, is prepared 4 times a year.

A monthly Corporate Communion is held for the Older Classes and Adults. Since this was begun a year ago, the interest and understanding of the pupils has noticeably increased. Two Classes were shown a set of 3 filmstrips on the Holy Communion. All Classes, Kindergarten and over, attended the Christmas Pageant in the Church. Participants in the Cast were from the Junior and Senior High Classes. The Lucia Fest has become a part of our tradition under the able direction of Miss Lehmann. The Cast is selected from Sunday School Members. At Easter, the Flowering of the Cross Service is an attempt to make the Easter message come alive for the children.

The Lenten Wednesday Afternoon Services had an average attendance of 53. A Series of filmstrips on "Defenders of the Faith." - Old Testament Characters, was presented.

Other responsibilities consisted of giving Confirmation Instruction to the younger group on Sunday afternoons and preparing several individuals who were unable to attend the scheduled classes. Help was given the Women's Organizations in preparing their programs.

Christian Education is not simply a set of lessons for the Sunday School involving the individual one short period a week. It is an ongoing process from the Cradle to the Grave. All that we do here, the programs of all the Organizations, are in a very real sense a part of the Educational Work of the Church.

A strong Foundation has been laid these 200 years. Our challenge as a Parish today, is to create that quality of corporate life in which individuals are related NOW to God through Jesus Christ and One Another in His Family the Church. Nothing less than this can be our Torch to pass on to the future of this historic Church. It is a real privilege to be a part of this Challenge.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth A. Jenks, Parish Worker.

# THE 200th ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE LOOKS BACKWARD AND FORWARD

When did the 200th Anniversary really begin? Was it the enthusiastic response to the sale of "St. James" Church Calendars by the Chancel Guild? Or was it the beautiful Swedish colored 200th Anniversary Sign erected on the Church property by the Sunday School? Could it have been the sale of commemorative dinner plates and tiles by the Woman's Auxiliary? Or was it the beautiful 200th Anniversary Prayer written by the Rev'd. James C. Gilbert? Was it the gala New Year's Eve Party featuring the unforgetable performance by the professional harpist, the St. James Musicians bringing back memories of minstrel show days (Benn, Ethel, Mathilde, Elaine and who could forget - Caroline), refreshments by the Chancel Guild, our own master of ceremonies - Shaw Stevenson - and decorations by a couple of swell people? Nearly 200 people came to the New Year's Eve Social including all - Thank You - Y.P.F.!

Sunday, December 31, 1961 - 11 P.M. - St. James Church of Kingsessing, A Service of Evening Prayer. The choir, the organist, the guest preacher, The Very Rev'd. Nathaniel Acton, Dean of the Convocation, joined together with approximately 200 parishioners. This then, was the setting when St. James Church of Kingsessing began its Third Century - a dedicated Congregation participating in a Service of Prayer and Thanksgiving. From this dignified beginning, Anniversary events were scheduled throughout the Church Year.

On Sunday, February 18th at 4 P.M., over 300 members of St. James and representatives of various community and civic organizations attended a Service of Evening Prayer and heard the stiring message of the Rev'd. Harry T. Longley, D.D., former Rector of the Church of the Holy Trinity, Philadelphia. This event was sponsored by the St. James Guild, Woman's Auxiliary, and Evening Auxiliary who invited all civic and church organizations West of the Schuylkill River and South of Market Streets.

St. James was selected as the Central host Church in the Diocese of Pennsylvania for the Annual George Washington's Birthday Corporate Communion and Breakfast for men and boys on Saturday, February 24th at 8 A.M. The Rt. Rev'd. Henry I. Louttit, Bishop of South Florida addressed a group of 110 and his message was carried over Radio Station WRCV. The Men's Club (Mr. Walter Robertson, Chairman) sponsored this successful event for the Diocesan Brotherhood of St. Andrew.

The Lenten Wednesday Evening Services from March 7th to April 11th were conducted by former Seminarian Assistants and members of the Parish. The Daughters of the King assisted by all other women's organizations sponsored social hours following each Service.

On Good Friday, the St. James Choir presented Sir John Stainer's "The Crucifixion." Over 300 persons heard outstanding performances by the choir and three guest soloists directed by Miss Mareen Bixler, Organist. A research of historical records disclosed that St. James was probably the first Church in the United States to present this beautiful oratorio in 1892. The Service was taped by Mr. Lewis Hoshach for the use of future generations of Christians who worship in this Church.

**Proposed Anniversary events include: May 9th, Sunday School Bazaar** - Historical Theme - Mr. Richard Atchison, Chairman; May 13th, Swedish Colonial Societies Service; June 17th, Service of Ordination for two St. James Candidates; June, Historical Play presented by the Sunday School; August 5th, 200th Anniversary Laying of the Cornerstone - Special Services; October 18th, West Philadelphia Convocation and Dinner Meeting; November 3rd, Parish Banquet and Entertainment; December 9th, Lucia Fest.

We wish to express our appreciation to those handling the sale of commemorative Dinner Plates and Tiles, St. James' Pennants and in the near future, 'St. James' Christmas Cards. Also, to the Rector, Vestry, Miss Jenks and to the untold members of St. James for their loyal support.

We solicit your ideas and suggestions for improving the 200th Anniversary Program and trust that you join with us in looking towards August 5th - a date not too many years ago when a 'foreign' missionary established a Church in a "place where there is a meadow - Kingsess."

Respectfully submitted,

Fred Davidson,
200th Anniversary Committee.

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Contributors:

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| Editor: | Miss Elizabeth A. Jenks |
| Associate: | Mr. Fred Davidson |
| Articles: | Rector, Wardens, Officers of Church Organizations |
| Cover: | Miss Mathilde E. Lehmann |
| Photography: | Mr. Harry C. Rippel |